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BOROUGH OF DORCHESTER

ANNUAL REPORT

by the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

C.D. Day, M.A., D.P.H., etc.

for the year

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B O R O U G H O F D O R C H E S T E R

HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

1938 - 1939.

Chairman	:	Alderman E.W. Tilley
Vice-Chairman	:	" A.J. Rossiter
His Worship the Mayor	:	Councillor C.H. Stroud

Alderman A.R. Pope	Councillor E.L. Ling
" J.M. Underwood	" Miss W.Marsden,O.B.E.
" J.J. Walne	" J.H. Moore
Councillor R. Beavis	" L.C.L. Moore
" W.J. Fare	" A.C.R. Pope
" A.R. Jeffery	" T.H.H. Wheeler
" W.H. Jewell	

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

1938 - 1939.

Chairman	:	Alderman A.R. Pope
Vice-Chairman	:	Councillor V. Boon
His Worship the Mayor	:	" C.H. Stroud.

Alderman T.H. Tilley	Councillor H. Harding
" A.J. Rossiter	" A.R. Jeffery
Councillor K.W. Abbot	" W.H. Jewell
" R. Beavis	" Miss W. Marsden,O.B.E.
" E.O. Chalker	" T.H.H. Wheeler

ISOLATION HOSPITAL COMMITTEE.

1938 - 1939

Chairman	:	Miss Councillor W.Marsden,O.B.E.
Vice-Chairman	:	Councillor H.G.Longman
His Worship the Mayor	:	" C.H. Stroud

Alderman E.W. Tilley	Councillor E.L. Ling
Councillor K.W. Abbott	" A.C.R. Pope
" W.J. Fare	" T.H.H. Wheeler
" W.H. Jewell	

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" J.J. Waine
Councillor R. Beavis
" W.J. Fare
" A.R. Jeffery
" W.H. Jewell

Councillor E.L. Line
" Miss W.Marsden, O.B.E.
" J.H. Moore
" L.C.I. Moore
" A.C.R. Pope
" T.H.H. Wheeler

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Councillor K.W. Abbott
" R. Beavis
" E.C. Chalmer

Councillor H. Harding
" A.R. Jeffery
" W.H. Jewell
" Miss W. Marsden, O.B.E.
" T.H.H. Wheeler

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1938 - 1939

Chairman	:	Miss Councillor W.Marsden, O.B.E.
Vice-Chairman	:	Councillor H.G.Longman
His Worship the Mayor	:	" O.H. Stroud

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Councillor K.W. Abbott
" W.J. Fare
" W.H. Jewell

Councillor E.L. Line
" A.C.R. Pope
" T.H.H. Wheeler

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical. Part-time officers:-

C.D. Day, M.A., D.P.H., etc. Medical Officer of Health. M.O.H. Dorchester Rural District.

Dorothy M. Howse, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Medical Superintendent of the Borough Isolation Hospital.

(b) Others. Whole-time Officers:-

H.D. Strange, Borough Engineer & Surveyor. Member of the Institute of Municipal & County Engineers. Health Duties:- Scavenging, collection and Disposal of House Refuse, Cleansing and Watering of Streets; Sewerage and Sewage Disposal. Water supply.

E. Groombridge, Sanitary Inspector, Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute, 1909. - Inspector under Housing Regulations, Shops' Act & Petroleum Acts - Meat Inspector.

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(a) Medical. Part-time officers:-

C.D. Day, M.A., D.P.H., etc. Medical Officer of Health. M.O.H. Dorchester Rural District.

Dorothy M. Howes, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Medical Superintendent of the Borough Isolation Hospital.

(b) Others. Whole-time officers:-

H.D. Strange, Borough Engineer & Surveyor. Member of the Institute of Municipal & County Engineers.

Health Duties:- Scavenging, collection and Disposal of House Refuse, Cleansing and Watering of Streets; Sewerage and Sewage Disposal. Water supply.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1938.

To

His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and

Councillors of the Borough of Dorchester.

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my eighteenth annual report on the Sanitary circumstances, the sanitary administration and the vital statistics of the Borough of Dorchester.

The Report is arranged in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health.

SECTION A - STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area - in acres	1682
Population (estimated resident mid-year 1937)	10,230
Number of Inhabited Houses according to the Rate Books	2,854
Rateable Value as at 31st. December ...	£80,306
Sum represented by a penny rate.. ...	£315

The Social conditions are mainly urban and the chief occupation of the inhabitants is in connection with the Markets, the Brewery, and some Engineering and Motor works.

Unemployment. In the Borough the number of Men, Women & Boys unemployed varied from about under 100 in June to about 150 to 200 in December.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1938.

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The Report is arranged in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health.

SECTION A - STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area - in acres	1889
Population (estimated resident mid-year 1937)	10,230
Number of Inhabited Houses according to the Rate Books	2,884
Rateable Value as at 31st. December ...	£80,308
Sum represented by a penny rate... ...	£316

The Social conditions are mainly urban and the chief occupation of the inhabitants is in connection with the Markets, the Brewery, and some Engineering and Motor works.

Unemployment. In the Borough the number of Men, Women & Boys unemployed varied from about under 100 in June to about 150 to 200 in December.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births.	141	67	74
Legitimate	136	63	73
Illegitimate	5	4	1

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 13.9
Birth Rate for England & Wales 15.1

Still Births.	.8.	5..	3

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still-births) births 54.4

Deaths.	157	76	81

Death Rates.

Local (Crude) Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 15.34

Comparability Factor for adjusting the Local Death Rates (see note below) .86

Adjusted (Comparable) Death Rate for the Borough of Dorchester for 1938 13.19

Death Rate for England and Wales ... 11.6

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (live & still) births.
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil ..	Nil
Deaths from other puerperal causes ...	2 ..	13.42
Total	2 ..	-

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1000 live births... ..	42.5
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	44.1
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.	Nil.
Deaths from Cancer...	16
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages). ...	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)...	Nil.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births.	141	67	74
Legitimate	136	63	73
Illegitimate	5	4	1
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	12.		
Birth Rate for England & Wales	15		
Still Births. ... ... .8. 5..	3		
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still-births) births	54		
Deaths. 157 76	81		
Death Rates.			
Local (Crude) Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	15.34		
Comparability Factor for adjusting the Local Death Rates (see note below)	.86		
Adjusted (Comparable) Death Rate for the Borough of Dorchester for 1938	13.19		
Death Rate for England and Wales ...	11.6		
Deaths.	Rate per 1 total (live still) bir		
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil.	..	Nil
Deaths from other puerperal causes ...	2	..	13.42
Total	2	..	-
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-			
All infants per 1000 live births... ..			42.5
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births			44.1
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.			Nil.
Deaths from Cancer...			16
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages). ...			Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)...			Nil.

Note on the Comparability Factor for adjusting the Local Death Rate of 1931 and subsequent years.

This is a factor by which the crude death rate of the area should be multiplied in order to make it comparable, from a mortality point of view, with the crude death rate of the country as a whole or with the mortality of any other local area, the crude death rate of which should be similarly modified with its own factor for the purpose.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males.	Females.
Influenza	-	1
Cerebrospinal fever	-	1
Tuberculosis (respiratory) ...	1	1
Cancer, malignant disease.. ...	8	8
Diabetes	1	2
Cerebral haemorrhage	6	7
Heart disease	25	23
Aneurysm	-	1
Other circulatory diseases. ...	4	-
Bronchitis	3	4
Pneumonia	5	2
Other respiratory diseases. ...	1	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	-
Other Liver diseases	1	2
Digestive diseases	3	2
Appendicitis	-	1
Nephritis	-	3
G.P.I. and Tabes	1	1
Congenital causes	2	1
Puerperal disease (other than sepsis)	-	2
Senility	1	3
Suicide	1	-
Violence (other than suicide) ...	2	2
Other defined diseases	10	11
Ill defined diseases	1	-
	76	81

No condition of occupation or environment seem to have had any prejudicial effect on health. There is no evidence that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health of the adults or children.

SECTION B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(i) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS of the AUTHORITY.

See page 1.

(ii) (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The arrangements during the year were the same as in previous years. A Pathological & Bacteriological laboratory has been built by the Dorset County Council in Glyde Path Road, Dorchester, and in the near future this work will be transferred to the County Laboratory.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. There have been no changes in these arrangements during the year. A motor ambulance is kept at the Isolation Hospital and is used for infectious disease cases only. It brings in cases from the Rural Area as well as from the Borough. The arrangements are quite adequate and satisfactory in every way.

(c) NURSING in the HOME:-

No change in the arrangements.

MIDWIVES. The following is a list of State-Certified Midwives who notified their intention to practise in the Borough of Dorchester during the year ended 31st. December 1938.

Name.	Address.
Barrett, Grace M.	Dorset County Hospital.
Eaton, Margaret	Dorset County Hospital.
Edwards, Winifred B.	41. Louise Road, Dorchester.
Jenkins, Olive	Dorset County Hospital.
Mason, Ethel Mary	45.High West Street,Dorchester.
Richards, Gertrude	P.A. Institution.
Roberts, Ivy Ellen May	24. Louise Road, Dorchester.
Smith, Eva Bronwen	"Kingston", Lorne Rd,Dorchester.
Sullivan,Marion Eva	8,Damers Road, Dorchester.
Willard, Lilian	"Knighton", Lorne Rd,Dorchester.
Williams, Winifred Mary	45, High West Street,Dorchester.

Mrs. Lilian Willard is a subsidised midwife for the Borough of Dorchester. She is subsidised by the Dorset County Council.

(d) CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES:-

Cancer - Radium Treatment. A consultation clinic has been established at the Dorset County Hospital by the Dorset County Council at which Dr. Taylor the Radium Officer of the Regional Radium Centre attends to advise patients suffering from Cancer. The clinic is held at 11.30 a. m. on the second Wednesday in each month.

(e) HOSPITALS. During the year there have been no changes in the Isolation Hospital services.

Dr. Dorothy M. Howse, the Medical Superintendent, has given me the following report on the administration of the Borough Isolation Hospital during the year 1938.

Admissions.	Borough	Dorchester Rural	Wareham Rural	Woodsford Air Force Camp.	Totals.
Diphtheria	1	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	1
Enteric Fever	1	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	1
German Measles	-	-	-	1	1
Measlos	-	-	-	3	3
Scarlet Fever	2	13	18	-	33
Tonsillitis	2	-	-	-	2
Observation (Found not to be any infectious disease).	2	-	-	-	2
TOTALS.	10	13	18	4	45

In addition one infant was admitted with the mother for feeding purposees, from Wareham Rural District.

There have been no deaths in the hospital.

During the year central heating has been installed in the Scarlet Fever Block.

The Nursing Staff consists of:-

1 Matron (General Trained & Fever Trained S.R.N.)

1 Staff Nurse (Fever Trained S.R.N.)

2 Assistant Nurses (Fever Trained).

The Domestic Staff consists of:-

1 Cook General (post at present vacant))
2 Ward Maids) all
1 Between Maid) resident
1 Laundress)

SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. A plentiful supply is pumped from a well about 120 feet deep in the chalk. Over three million gallons of water are pumped every week. There have been extensions of the main in Treves Road, Garfield Avenue, Florence Road and Alfred Place.

During the year 21 bacteriological examinations of the water supply have been carried out. At the end of March the water was found to be contaminated, so it was decided to instal a chemical (chloramine) purification plant. Messrs. Wallace & Tiernan did this work and the plant was in working order on February 7th.

Similar purification plants supplied by this firm are used at Poole, Bournemouth, Southampton and many other important places.

Very thorough and extensive tests were carried out on a sewer that I suspected as the source of contamination and this was, in fact, found to be defective. Portions of the sewer had to be relaid and the whole made sound. All the samples taken since the installation of the purification plant have been perfectly satisfactory. Two samples per month are taken for bacteriological examination.

(ii) DRAINAGE. The only extension during the year is a nine inch sewer in Kings Road. Defects were found in the Damers Barn Sewer as mentioned above.

2. RIVERS. No action has been taken with regard to pollution of rivers or streams in the borough, other than the closure of a swimming bath.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.	Earth Closets	- 15 on outskirts of Borough.			
	Cesspools	- 14	do	do	
	Privies	- Nil.			

With the exception of those cases above mentioned, all houses in the Borough are provided with water-closets. One additional sanitary convenience has been provided for the use of the occupants of houses who previously had to share one water-closet.

In addition, other premises have been demolished, so that there now remains 15 cases (i.e. 30 houses) in which two separate houses have only one water-closet between them. This is a matter which needs urgent attention, as it is very obvious that every house should have at least one water-closet.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

DUSTBINS.

During the year 50 dustbins have been provided where receptacles previously in use were not in conformity with Sect. 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Refuse is collected from the houses on three days in every week and has been removed by motor lorries to a field near Greys Bridge and covered over, so as to raise the level of this land.

The cleansing and emptying of Cesspools and Earth Closets is not undertaken by this authority.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following particulars of the work done in this Borough during the last year have been supplied by Mr. Groombridge, the Sanitary Inspector:-

NUMBER and NATURE of INSPECTIONS made:-

Dwelling-houses	638
Bakehouses	29
Dairies, Cowsheds & Milk-shops.	31
Slaughter-houses	576
Factories & Workshops..	56
New Buildings (Drainage work)..	89
Premises under Notice..	679
In connection with Infectious disease.. ..	12
Petroleum Stores	114
Miscellaneous	161
Houses measured (Housing Survey)	22
In connection with Shops Acts	156

SUMMARY of COMPLAINTS RECEIVED:-

Insanitary condition of houses		..	..	7
Foul Accumulations	..	..	..	2
House drainage ..	..	..	..	16
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	17
	Total			42

At the request of the Borough Surveyor, Drainage Work in connection with New Buildings has been supervised, examined and tested, and for this purpose 89 visits have been paid to the various premises.

Under Section 5 of the Housing Act, 1936, the number of dwelling-houses inspected amounted to 197, and, as formerly, reports upon the premises have been submitted to the Special Committee appointed to deal with the provisions of the Act in question.

The Table given below shows the position of the Houses which have been reported upon during the period under review:-

Alfred Road	...	...	24
Alington Road	...	...	15
Ashley Road	...	...	20
Colliton Street	...	...	2
Cromwell Road	...	...	29
Friary Hill	...	...	1
Greyhound Yard	...	...	2
High East Street	...	...	1
High Street, Fordington		...	1
Kings Road	...	...	1
Maumbury Road	...	...	16
Millers Close	...	...	2
Mill Street	...	...	5
Monmouth Road	...	...	73
Pound Lane	...	...	1
Salisbury Street	...	...	1
St. Georges Road	...	...	1
The Grove	...	...	1
Victoria Road	...	...	1
			197

The various defects which have been discovered in the course of the Inspections have necessitated the service of 93 notices under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936 - and 9 informal notices.

In addition, 2 of the houses were found to be in such a condition that they were not considered capable of being at a reasonable expense, rendered fit for human habitation, and were consequently dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. In consequence of action taken in the previous year, two houses have been demolished, and a third was voluntarily demolished by the owner.

WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR.

Drains laid	65
" repaired	5
" cleared	9
Soil & Ventilating pipes erected	48
" " " repaired..	6
Existing Soil pipes ventilated	1
W.C. apparatuses provided...	94
" " repaired..	14
Separate closet accommodation provided	1
Paving of Yards repaired	10
Floors repaired	16
Roofs	13
Eaves-gutters & Stackpipes repaired	26
Rooms cleansed	233
Dampness remedied..	20
Doors repaired	12
Windows "	45
Grates repaired or renewed.	8
Sash cords of windows renewed	80
Stairs repaired	-
Defective sinks renewed	-
Coppers repaired or renewed	4
Dustbins provided..	50

NOTICES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR:-

	Number Issued.	Complied with.	Outstanding.
Preliminary Notices ..	198	196	2
Sect.39 Public Health Act,1936	-	-	-
" 45 " " " "	-	-	-
" 48 " " " "	4	4	-
" 93 " " " "	-	-	-
" 9 Housing Act, 1936	93	90	3
" 11 " " "	2	-	2
" 157 " " "	8	8	-
	305	298	7

SUMMARY of PART of WORK:-

Calls & Communications received and entered	1,419
Letters written (general)	359
" " (Housing Act)	559
" " (Milk Order)	73
" " (Shops Act)	25
Reports made to Committees	33
Notices issued	305
Entries made in:-	
Nuisance Journal	80
Records of Inspection of Dwelling-houses	197
Infectious Diseases' Register	13
Dairy, Cowsheds & Milk-shop Register	8
School Notices issued	14
Rooms disinfected	10

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

1. INSPECTION of Factories &c.	No. of Inspections	Written Notices
Factories	56	12

2. DEFECTS found in FACTORIES	Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness	3	3
Defective drainage	1	1
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	1	1
Thermometers not provided	7	7
	12	12

The Factories Act, 1937, came into operation on July 1st. of the year under review, and in consequence of Sect. 2, sub-section 6, various workrooms have been measured and 24 cards, to be hung in the rooms concerned, have been supplied to the occupiers .

In one instance the sanitary conveniences did not conform with the requirements of the Act, but in this case new convenience urinal and lavatory basins have been provided.

OUTWORKERS:-

Two lists of Outworkers, affecting one worker have been received and the particulars recorded.

(IV) SHOPS and OFFICES. Action was taken in the case of insufficient Sanitary accommodation on the premises of a meat shop; a new water closet was provided. One grocer's shop had no heating arrangements. No case of insufficient ventilation was found.

(V) CAMPING SITES. (a) Thhre is no site used habitually for camping purposes, no licences were applied for or issued in respect of camping sites.

(VI) SMOKE ABATEMENT. One case of smoke nuisance was discovered and arrangements made for its abatement by a suitable filter.

(VII) SWIMMING BATHS and POOLS. There was one recognised bathing place in the river near Greys Bridge but as the water was found to be contaminated, it was pronounced unfit for the purpose and this place has been closed, since May 1938.

(VIII) ERADICATION of BED BUGS.

No case of infestation by bed bugs in (a) Council houses or (b) other houses, was brought to notice during the year.

OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS.

Disposal of the Dead. There is sufficient space for the burial of the dead. The nearest Crematorium is at Bournemouth.

4. SCHOOLS. The Water Supply & general sanitary condition of the schools has been satisfactory.

In cases of infectious diseases the Head Teachers of the Day and Superintendents of Sunday Schools are notified and requested to exclude the children concerned until further notice.

During the year no particular diseases were prevalent at the Schools the borough being particularly free from infectious diseases during the year.

RAG FLOCK ACTS 1911 and 1928.

No Rag Flock is manufactured in this district.

DISINFECTION.

On the outbreak of an infectious disease the house is visited, and after the removal or recovery of the patient the infected rooms are fumigated, and the bedding and other articles are removed to the steam disinfector which was installed at the Isolation Hospital in 1930. The following is a list of the articles so treated during the year:-

Beds	1
Mattresses..	13
Palliasses..	-
Bolsters	3
Pillows	39
Sheets	13
Blankets	21
Quilts	1
Counterpanes	-
Eiderdowns..	6
Bodspreads..	2
Carpets	-
Rugs	13
Cushions	12
Toilet Covers	3
Towels	3
Articles of wearing apparel. ..	13
Curtains	11
Mats	-
Handkerchiefs	4
Miscellaneous	19
Total	177

In addition 3 other lots of bedding have been treated in the disinfector, following arrangements made by the owners after the occurrence of non-notifiable illnesses.

SECTION D. HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:- 38

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES.

(1)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	638
	Number of inspections made	983
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	197
	Number of inspections made	317
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found, during this period, to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	2
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-hea ding) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..	104

2. REMEDY of DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE of FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 9

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	93
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:-	
(a) by owners..	90
(b) by local authority in default of owners.	Nil.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	145
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:-	
(a) by owners..	143
(b) by local authority in default of owners	Nil.

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..	6

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Overcrowding:-

(a) -	(i) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	6
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	6
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ..	43
(b) -	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) -	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	Nil
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	Nil.
(d) -	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil.

5. Total No. of new houses erected during 1938 38

No. erected during 1938 with State Assistance

1. By Local Authority .. .. Nil.
2. By other Bodies or Persons .. .. Nil.

No. of Houses owned by Local Authority .. 314

Approximate No. of working class houses in District 2,500

22 houses were measured during the year for the purpose of ascertaining the "permitted number" of occupants under the Housing Acts, and the necessary particulars have been recorded. In the execution of this work 1 further case of overcrowding was discovered.

Applications for the "permitted numbers" for houses which come within the scope of the Act in question have been received from the owners, and the necessary slips for attachment to rent books forwarded in 476 cases.

NUMBER of HOUSES OWNED BY THIS AUTHORITY.

The total number of houses owned by this authority is 314.

Sixty-six of these are pre-war property and two hundred and forty-eight have been built under the housing schemes since the war.

SURVEY of HOUSES. A survey of the poorer class property was carried out by the Housing Inspector and myself during the last three months of the year. Although the survey was not completed by the end of the year it was evident that a large number of houses would have to be recommended for demolition or as Clearance areas as they could not be rendered fit for habitation at a reasonable cost.

Details of the proposed Clearance Areas and individual houses recommended for Demolition will be included in the next annual report.

SECTION E. INSPECTION and SUPERVISION of FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops. There are at present twenty persons registered as Cowkeepers, Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk within the Borough, one of whom produces "Tuberculin Tested Milk".

As required by the Milk & Dairies' (Amendment) Act, 1922, the register has been divided into two sections, viz. wholesale and retail purveyors, there being 8 of the former and 15 of the latter. About 230 cows are kept within the Borough.

During the year 4 milk businesses have been discontinued and 3 changes in occupation have taken place, and 1 new business has been established.

In an endeavour to improve conditions under which milk is produced and sold the undermentioned samples of milk have been forwarded for bacteriological examination and the necessary action taken on the reports received:-

25 - Accredited milk,
4 - Pasteurised milk,
5 - Tuberculin Tested milk, and
11 - Ungraded milk.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, the following licences have been granted by the Council:-

1 - For Pasteurising milk,
2 - For Bottling Tuberculin Tested milk,
1 - For Bottling Accredited milk,
2 - For Dealers in Tuberculin Tested milk, and
1 - Supplementary Licence for Pasteurised milk.

(b) MEAT &c.

Public Health (Meat Regulations).

During the year 576 visits have been paid to the slaughter-houses within the Borough, 41 of which were in connection with special notices given under Section 9 of the Regulations, viz., calling attention to abnormal conditions discovered when animals were slaughtered.

3,107 animal carcases have been examined and altogether 264 lots of meat have been surrendered and destroyed, this being comprised as follows:-

Beef	7,050 lbs.
Mutton	276 "
Pork	2,124 "
Veal	437 "
Edible Offal	2,329 "
Total	12,216 lbs.

The meat in question was destroyed on account of the following:- Tuberculosis - 9,737 lbs; bruised meat - 446 lbs; pleurisy, abscesses and tumours - 681 lbs; liver fluke - 688 lbs; miscellaneous causes - 664 lbs.

142 surrender certificates have been obtained from the owners of meat which has been condemned.

There are five licensed slaughter-houses within the Borough, all of which have been kept in proper order. Bye-laws for the compulsory use of humane killers were adopted in 1923. The occupiers of slaughter-houses have given notice as to their regular times of slaughtering.

Unsound meat is destroyed in the incinerator provided for the purpose. The following table shows the Meat & Carcases inspected

and condemned:-

CARCASES INSPECTED and CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)					
Number inspected	379	65	590	617	1,456
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	2	4	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	44	17	1	19	84
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	11.60	26.15	0.05	3.72	5.76
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	4	7	3	-	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	27	19	-	-	115
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	8.17	40.00	0.05	-	8.31

SLAUGHTER of ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

In accordance with the requirements of The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, all slaughter-men engaged in the local slaughter-houses have been licensed; three of such licences have been renewed during the year.

(c) ADULTERATION, etc.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1928.

The following samples were taken in this Borough during the year with the results as stated:-

Description of Sample.	Number of samples obtained.	Number of samples reported against.
Acetic Acid Glacial	1	-
Almond Oil	1	-
Beer	1	-
Brandy	1	-
Butter	1	-
Castor Oil	1	-
Cheese	1	-
Chocolate Biscuits	1	-
Cocoa	1	-
Coffee (Ground)	1	-
Cream Buns	1	-
Eucalyptus Oil	1	-
Fruit Dried	1	-
Gin	1	-
Lemon Curd	1	-
Lemonade Powder	1	-
Lime Water	1	-
Milk	20	1
Sulphur Flowers of,	1	-
Yeast Tablets	1	-
TOTALS	39	1

Action taken with regard to samples adversely reported upon:-

Milk. Deficient in fat to the extent of 6% Seller cautioned.

FOOD CONDEMNED.

During the year the undermentioned food, other than butcher's meat, being unfit for human consumption, wwas destroyed:-

Eggs ...	...	1,072
Corned Beef..	...	12 lbs.
Lunch Tongue.	...	6 "
Ox Tongue ...	...	2 "

(d) CHEMICAL and BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION of FOOD.

Samples for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act 1928 are taken by the police.

Bacteriological examinations will be carried out at the Dorset County Laboratory.

(e) NUTRITION. No lectures have been given or films shown on this subject under any arrangements by this authority.

(f) SHELL-FISH (Molluscan). There are no shell-fish beds in this area.

BAKEHOUSES.

At present there are thirteen bakehouses in use within the Borough, in 8 of which mechanical power is used.

Two of the bakehouses are "underground" - these having been certified as fit for the purpose under the Factory & Workshop Act, 1901. Such certificates have been continued by notices given under Sect. 54 (2) (b) of the Factories Act, 1937.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

Under the above-named Act, 54 licences for the keeping of Petroleum Spirit have been issued, 52 of which were for the renewal of existing licences and two for new installations. One licence was discontinued at the end of the year. Nine licences for the storage of Carbide of Calcium were also renewed, and 1 was discontinued.

SECTION F. PREVALENCE OF, and CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS and OTHER DISEASES.

DIPHTHERIA. No case arose in this borough, One case, a nurse came into the town suffering with Diphtheria from the Diphtheria ward, Isolation Hospital at Great Yarmouth and was isolated here in the Isolation Hospital.

SCARLET FEVER. Three cases were notified and all were treated in the Isolation Hospital. Two cases occurred at the Dorset County Hospital and one was introduced from a camp in the Dorchester Rural area.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA. One case occurred at the Dorset County Hospital following an operation (artificial child-birth).

ENTERIC FEVER. One case was notified. It appeared to have arisen from infection acquired in another County. There was no evidence that it was associated in anyway with this district.

DYSENTERY. Two cases of the very mild type. This borough remained remarkably free from infectious illness, only 19 cases in all, having been notified.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. Clinics for free immunisation were not held during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS. All the cases of Tuberculosis deaths were notified before death.

No case of Smallpox has been notified, and no primary or

revaccinations performed under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations 1917.

There is no record of any case of anthrax, undulant fever or psittacosis.

School intimations of suspected infectious diseases are utilized, the schools and homes visited by me, and swabs taken in suspected cases of diphtheria, and of contacts, and children are examined by me for overlooked cases of scarlet fever.

There are no facilities for cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons other than at the Public Assistance Institution.

There is no unusual prevalence of mosquitoes in this district.

No action was taken under the Public Health Act 1925 Section 62 or 66.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION of TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

These Regulations are administered by the Dorset County Council.

No person who is employed in the Milk Trade is known to be suffering with Tuberculosis.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS. A course of six lectures for doctors was given in April and May by Dr. Pearse from the Home Office on War Gasses, precautions, and treatment. Forty-eight doctors attended from all parts of the County.

Tables of Infectious diseases and Tuberculosis are attached hereto.

I am, Lady & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C.D. Day.

TUBERCULOSIS 1938.

Age periods. Years.	New Cases. Pulmonary M.	New Cases. Pulmonary F.	New Cases. Non-pulmonary. M.	New Cases. Non-pulmonary. F.	Deaths. Pulmonary. M.	Deaths. Pulmonary. F.	Deaths. Non-pulmonary. M.	Deaths. Non-pulmonary. F.
0-								
1-								
5-								
10-				1				
15-								
20-								
25-	1	1						
35-								
45-						1		
55-	1			1				
65-& upwards								
TOTALS.	2	1	-	1	1	1	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS 1938.

Age periods. Years.	New Cases. Pulmonary M.	Pulmonary F.	Non-pulmonary M.	Non-pulmonary F.	Deaths. Pulmonary M.	Pulmonary F.	Non-pulmonary M.	Non-pulmonary F.
0-								
1-								
5-								
10-			1					
15-								
20-								
25-	1	1						
35-								
45-						1		
55-	1		1					
65-& up-wards								
TOTALS.	2	1	-	1	1	1	-	-

TABLE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(other than Tuberculosis)
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1938.

	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Total Deaths.	Years of Age. 0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	65
Dysentery	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1
Poliomyelitis, Acute	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia, Acute primary	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	2	1
Puerperal pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	19	5	1	-	-	1	-	1	3	1	1	3	1	2	4	2

TABLE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(other than Tuberculosis)
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1936.

| | Total Cases Notified. | Total Deaths. | Resident. Case per 1,000 of Population | Years of Age. | | |